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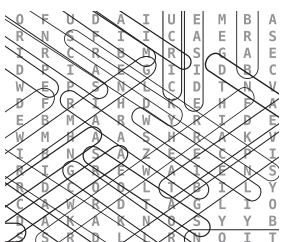
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## Social distancing



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## Fun page!



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50¢



# LHS senior Jenna Perry uses Instagram to highlight classmates

by Justin Scott  
contributing reporter

With the move to online schooling, Lowell High School has made an effort to highlight their seniors through the use of social media.

One LHS senior has seen that initiative and been able to highlight her fellow seniors as well. The “LHS 2020 Seniors” Instagram account kicked off on April 11th, on the popular social media platform Instagram. LHS senior Jenna Perry has been able to highlight 100 of her classmates so far with congratulatory posts.

“When bored in quarantine I found myself overwhelmed with all of the thoughts of what was and was not going to happen with senior year. The negative media can be hard to read in an unsure time, but I kept reminding myself that I have college to look forward to, and that there are dreams and goals waiting for all of the seniors that we can’t lose focus on because of a change in lifestyle,” Perry said.

Using a phone application called PicsArt, she made templates of graphics that take approximately five minutes per design to

finish. Each graphic has the senior’s senior photo, and future college and major or work place. So far the account, under the username “lhs2020seniors\_” has over 300 followers, mostly members of the LHS Class of 2020.

“My favorite part about running the account is celebrating the peers that I’ve grown up with. I’m excited to see everyone following their dreams and finding success and sharing it publicly so that we can all support each other and celebrate each other during a crazy time in life. The project has allowed me to use my passion for design and social media to celebrate others,” said Perry.

It’s not just seniors going into college that Perry has highlighted. The most recent data from the US Department of Education says 70% of high school graduates go straight into college, but the other 30% go into trades, full-time work and the military. Perry has been able to highlight many of those individuals as well. Examples include members of the LHS class

of 2020 like Sebastian Szymanski who is going into the Navy, Seth Perez going into electrical work, Jayleigh Bileth going to Ferris State and the National Guard, and Aaron Fritsma going into automotive and diesel mechanics work at Kamminga & Roodvoets.

“When celebrating seniors I think a lot of people expect you to go to college, but the students that decide to follow their passions through other routes are just as deserving. The world needs people in trades, the workplace etc. and this pandemic has really highlighted the fact that we rely on those workers more than we recognize in everyday life. They’re essential and need to be celebrated,” said Perry.

While the class of 2020 is in unique circumstances, this year’s Lowell seniors are moving on to do some exciting things.

“I’m so proud of the Class of 2020 for staying strong through all of this,” Perry said. “I am so incredibly grateful for the support of the students, parents and community and the willingness to take time



Senior Ryleigh Blough is highlighted through the LHS Seniors Instagram account.

to follow the account and don’t want to let the things help celebrate the students taken away from us affect virtually, and show them that the plans and excitement we they are not alone. This is an all have for the future. Red abnormal senior year, but I Arrows for Life!”

## Police and fire incidents

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter



The Lowell Police Department made 10 arrests during the month of March, three fewer than they made in February. These arrests included one for drunk driving, four for outstanding warrants, two for driving with a suspended license and three that are described in the police department’s statistics as “other arrests.”

LPD also responded to plenty of misdemeanors during March. There were two larceny calls, five dog/

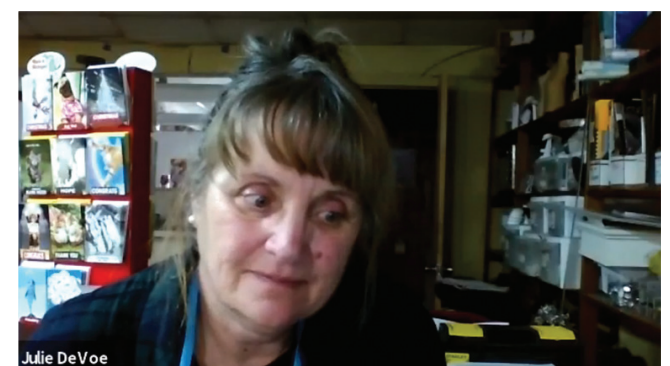
animal complaints, two malicious destructions, one disorderly conduct call and eight assaults. Lowell police issued 15 citations and notified six residents about ordinance violations. Out of 62 traffic stops in March, they let 55 drivers go with a warning and gave out 15 citations.

Lowell police were called to assist other law enforcement agencies 18 times and called other agencies for assistance six times in March. They were also called for assistance by citizens and motorists 18 different times.

Lowell police were also dispatched to five accidents during March, none with injuries.

The Lowell Area Fire Department responded to 74 incidents during March; 34 in the city of Lowell, 23 in Lowell Township and 17 in Vergennes Township.

## Downtown Development Authority Meeting



The most recent DDA meeting was held online via Zoom on Thursday, April 16. The board discussed their budget, the Sizzlin’ Summer Concerts and more.

Turn to page four for details.

# Memories of West Michigan

by Tenley Ysseldyke  
foreign correspondent

I told Toto long ago that we weren't in Kansas anymore, but I'm constantly reminded that even when you're somewhere over the rainbow you're not so far from home. Between 1965 and 1987 West Michigan was home, but in the past 33 years I've found pieces of home all over the world, and those that I haven't found will go on living in my memories of West Michigan.

In the 80s, "Let's go to Paris" meant I was in the mood for Yesterdog. Hearing the sound of the road change when the tires hit the bricks made me dream of a cobblestone street in Paris. Many years later, when I actually lived on a cobblestone street in Paris, the bumps made my bike bell ring, which reminded me of Yesterdog's tip horn. If only the guys on the streets of Paris sold cheddar dogs instead of just Nutella crepes.

After Eastown came East Grand Rapids for a double dip of mint chocolate chip ice cream at Jersey Junction, my favorite place for a date. Or, if I wanted to be served by a friendly waitress in a little gold dress with white trim and an apron, I'd go for a piece of Mint Chip Pie at Sweetland's on Plainfield. I discovered the pie when I was a teenager and no longer qualified for the free gum drop sundae that came with the kid's meal. And neither ice cream treat was complete without a little bag of seafoam from the candy counter.

If Sweetland's was closed (or our favorite waitress, who really knew the meaning of whipped cream, wasn't working) we'd head a little further down Plainfield for some Bill Knapp's Hot Fudge Cake (also served by a friendly waitress in a gold dress) and a Bing Crosby serenade, because it was always someone's birthday.

Living in Italy there's never a shortage of gelato (ice cream), but it would be nice if it were served in a place that features fabulous food and fantastic fountain fantasies for frolicking fun-filled festive families, like Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor. And I've yet to leave a gelateria (ice cream parlor) with a foot-long piece of licorice for dessert.

According to my American visitors, ice cream in Italy is better, but I think half of it is the thrill of eating an ice cream cone at 5:30 pm. In Michigan that's when your mom says you can't have it because it's almost suppertime. In Italy, it's part of "Happy Hour," and dinner can wait.

At least one Italian-American family has convinced Michiganders that a late supper is worth the wait. The long lines on the front and back staircases of Fricano's in Grand Haven

are proof. I hope the red and white checked tablecloths are still shaken out right behind your back and turned over for the next customer. And I hope you still get a paper placemat with the list of five ingredients and the sketch of the gondola. Had you asked me 35 years ago what kind of pizza I'd be eating in 2020, I would've said cheese, just like at Fricano's. But had you told me that one day I'd be learning how to "vogare alla Veneziana" (row a gondola-like boat with one oar while standing) I would've said, "I suppose you also think fountains can sing."

Which brings us back to dessert, a soft serve cone from Dairy Treat with its whimsical wall of giant circles and a walk on the Grand Haven pier followed, of course, by the musical fountain.



Tenley Ysseldyke

I think if I really looked I could find some of these things in Italy. But for now, if I just close my eyes and click my red heels, it's not hard to find what I'm missing.

Tenley Ysseldyke graduated from Lowell High School in 1983. Until Italy was shut down for the coronavirus pandemic, she was working as an English teacher there. Read more at <http://10leaves.blogspot.com/>

## 58% of Michigan will social distance for 'as long as it's required'

Despite the recent "Operation Gridlock" protest, a strong majority of state residents stand ready to continue physical and social distancing requirements for "as long as it's required."

New Michigan polling conducted last week by New York-based ELUCD asked state residents "How much longer are you willing/able to practice social/physical distancing?" a 58.16 percent majority responded, "as long as is required."

The options presented to those who were polled were as follows:

- Willing to continue social/physical distancing for less than another month,

selected by 18.3 percent.

- Willing to social/physical distance for another 1 to 2 months, 16.8 percent.

- Willing to social/physical distance for 2 to 4 months, 4.51 percent.

- Willing to social/physical distance for more than 4 months, 1.83 percent.

Asked about how long major changes including business closures, school closures, and widespread distancing will last or continue, 56 percent indicated they believe it will last between two months long or as far as into 2021.

Here is how state residents answered the "how long will restrictions/distancing last

or continue?"

- Another 1 to 2 months, 27.3 percent.

- Another 4 to 6 months, 17.8 percent.

- Less than another month, 17 percent.

- Through the end of the year, 11.19 percent.

- Into 2021, 11.93 percent.

Men appear more willing to social distance for as long as it takes at a higher percentage than women. A total of 75.2 percent of men selected "as long as it's required." Meanwhile, only 61.3 percent of women selected that option.

The ELUCD survey also asked about Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's decision to close schools for the remainder of the school year. That move was supported by 87.4 percent of state residents. Only 12.5 percent don't support the idea that schools should remain closed for the rest of the school year.

When asked, "What has been the hardest part of social/physical distancing?" some 67.3 percent of state residents said "not seeing friends and family" was the hardest part.

Other hard parts of social distancing were:

- 33.7 percent selected having business closed.

- 23.6 percent said "staying indoors all day."

- 11.2 percent said "feeling unsafe in my living situation".

- 8.9 percent said managing childcare or virtual schooling for children.

- 6.9 percent said the hardest part was managing to work from home.

ELUCD also asked about the recent guidance on wearing protective equipment including face coverings for the general public. Poll participants were asked, "what protective

measures are you taking?"

- 56.7 percent of Michigan residents said they are wearing an improvised face covering (homemade mask, scarf, etc.)

- 38.5 percent said they are wearing gloves.

- 36.5 percent are wearing medical masks.

- 12.7 percent said they have been unable to obtain PPE including gloves and masks.

- 8.25 percent said they don't believe it is necessary to wear PPE.

- 3.25 percent said they owned PPE but were not opting to wear it.

One of the far-reaching impacts of the current COVID-19 pandemic is the economic impact of

the restrictions and how they vary depending on household/individual. ELUCD asked, "How would you describe your ability to cover your bills due in April (e.g. rent, mortgage, credit card, etc.)?"

- 22.2 percent said they can pay their bills, but are tapping into savings to do so.

- 15 percent said they can pay, but will have to delay paying something else.

- 14.96 percent said they are unable to cover their expenses this month.

- 48 percent said their ability to pay their bills has not been impacted during the current COVID-19 pandemic.



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# What not to say to someone in pain/grieving and how to really help

by Melissa Spino MA LLPC CDMS  
Life Transitions Therapy LLC

We are living in an historic time and for many this virus is causing feelings of uncertainty, fear, anxiety, pain, and sadly some are experiencing loss. When someone we know loses a loved one, we naturally want to offer comforting words and support. It can be tough to know what to say to someone in pain. Often times we try to show support by saying things we have heard from others. Time honored quotes such as:

- “I understand how you feel”
- “He is in a better place” or “He is no longer in pain”
- “You will get over this”
- “God doesn’t give us more than we can handle” or “It is all part of God’s plan”
- “Everything happens for a reason”
- “It’s for the best that she didn’t linger.”

In my practice, I have helped my share of people work through their pain and grief. Please know that many people do not find the above statements helpful. They often feel these statements minimize their pain. Oftentimes, these statements tend to be more hurtful to someone that is already in emotional turmoil. So, let’s work to avoid these types of phrases and focus on ways to really help. Instead, simply let the person know that you are sorry for their loss. Then if you can, support them through your actions and presence.

One thing I often see people try to do to “help” is to push the person to get out of the house. Depending on the timing, this is not always helpful either. It can make the person feel like there is something wrong with them because of the depth of pain they are feeling. Again, invalidating what the person is feeling. As long as they are not hurting themselves or anyone else, let them work through their grief at their own pace. It’s different for everyone and grief does not have a time limit. However, if 1-2 months after the loss the person is still not regularly taking care of themselves (eating regularly, showering, doing most daily tasks etc.) avoiding others, and rarely leaving the home (if unusual for them), it may be time to get

professional help. Grief can change to moderate to severe depression and/or anxiety, which negatively affects one’s mental and physical health.

### “Grief is love with no place to go.” - Unknown

Grief is not something you get over. It’s something you get through and eventually you learn to live with the pain the best you can. I wish I could say it goes away, but it doesn’t. Depending on the circumstances, an individual’s grief may be trauma based and so severe that professional counseling is needed immediately. Sometimes just having a counselor or someone to talk with that does not know them can be helpful to process feelings.

### What Can You Really Do to Help?

Let your friend or loved one know that you are sorry for their loss and if possible, support them through your actions and presence. How? Do this by being there for the person. Sometimes just knowing someone else is there can be comforting, a calming presence amid a haze of emotional pain. Someone in pain will often say they don’t need anything and they are okay. That is most likely not true. Often, they are in so much pain that they are not thinking about

self-care. So here are some suggestions to help someone that is grieving and in emotional pain.

- Set up a schedule with other family and friends to check on them and be there for them. While there, each person can make sure meals, medications, bills, household chores, etc. are being done.
- Stop by to help around the house. Again, if you ask, the person will most likely say they are fine. So, pick up some groceries and drop them off. Stop by and mow the lawn or shovel the driveway and walkways (you don’t have to tell them you are there, just do it), do the dishes, do their laundry, dust etc. Anything you see that needs to be done just start doing it while talking with them. If they protest, say something similar to: “Please let me do this, I’m not sure how else I can be here for you and I really want to help, it makes me feel better.” It is tough for someone to say “no” when you state it is to make you feel better. This is not being manipulative because it is usually true you are there because you want to help. Also, they often don’t know what they need and things that must be done are not even on their radar.

- Bring them healthy already prepared meals and if possible, eat with them. Even if they are not enjoying the meal, they still need to eat for strength to get through the emotional turmoil, which is physically draining. Even if the meal is eaten in relative silence, that’s okay, a calming, caring presence is still supportive.

- Stop by and ask them to go for a walk with you to get them out of the house.
- Be sure they have their prescriptions filled and are taking them.

- Bring over a movie to watch stating that you want to spend time with them (preferably something soothing or a comedy, nothing sad or depressing).

Everyone has to get through grief in their own way but that doesn’t mean you can’t be nearby supporting that person. If at any time, you feel a person may be suicidal, call 911. Talk to the person and do whatever it takes to stop them from hurting themselves while waiting for help to arrive. If they believe in God, use it to your advantage. If they have children, use that noting that their children will feel a similar pain to what they are feeling now if they commit suicide. It might not sound fair, even manipulative, but you use

the means you have to keep the person alive until professional help arrives. If someone is suicidal, it is not a time to fight fair. You don’t want them using a permanent solution to a temporary situation/feeling. Let’s work to change the way we support those we care about that are grieving or in pain from one of unhelpful words to one of true support and caring. Just remember, together, we are stronger. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

This article is not intended to diagnose or treat. If you are having difficulty regulating your mood and it interferes with your daily activities or relationships it may be time to contact a professional. Many therapists and doctors are offering video conferencing during this time of social distancing so you can still receive needed care. If you experience a mental health crisis be sure to call 911.

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that the Lowell City Council, sittings as the Board of Zoning Appeals, will hold a public hearing at Lowell City Hall, located at 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 7:00 PM. The subject of the hearing will be:

### Proposed Variance requests at 1242 E. Main Street

Mr. Ryan Gould has submitted an application for three variances in order to construct an accessory building at 1242 E Main Street. The requested variances are summarized as follows:

1. The proposed accessory building would be located in the front yard. The Zoning Ordinance requires that accessory buildings be located in a rear or side yard.
2. The proposed accessory building not be served by a hard-surfaced driveway. The Zoning Ordinance requires that accessory buildings be served by a driveway surfaced with cement or asphalt, or a similar hard surface.
3. The proposed accessory building would have an area of 1,600 square feet. The Zoning Ordinance limits accessory building size to 1,200 square feet.

Copies of application and the City’s Zoning Ordinance are available for public viewing during regular business hours at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. Written comments will be received until the night of the hearing.

The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those with disabilities planning to attend upon three (3) days’ notice to the City Clerk. Individuals who require such services should contact the City at the address listed above or by telephone at 616-897-8457.



Respectfully,  
Susan Ullery  
Lowell City Clerk

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## DDA discusses concerts, budget at Zoom meeting

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Downtown Development Authority board - Dr. James Reagan (chair), Brian Doyle, Eric Wakeman, Rick Seese, Mike Sprenger, Julie Devoe, Rita Reister and city manager Michael Burns - had their latest meeting on the Internet via the Zoom app on Thursday, April 16.

The board voted to sponsor \$6,000 worth of the cost of this year's Sizzlin' Summer Concert series. It will cost LowellArts and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce \$46,400 to put on the shows this year. The concerts usually begin in June, those performances have been rescheduled to August. This year's batch is scheduled to begin on July 2 with a night of big band and jazz music by Sam's Swing Band.

"We can't really anticipate anything further than that until we get further clarification from the governor as to when they're going to open up Michigan again," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker. "We just have to play it day by day."

"We added a week [of concerts] at the end of the season," Seese said. "A Thursday night and a Saturday night."

Board member Doyle asked Baker what would happen with the money if the concerts don't take place.

Baker said when the Expo was canceled, sponsors were offered the choice of a total refund, to put it toward another sponsorship or to donate the amount to the Chamber.

"I would anticipate those sponsorships would just come back, at this point," Baker said.

The board discussed the DDA's budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Burns said the city could be facing some hard times in the future,



City hall (above) is closed to visitors and almost all staff, so the DDA meeting was held online.

which could have an effect on the DDA's bottom line.

"This upcoming year we anticipate a \$51,000 increase to the DDA fund," city manager Burns wrote in a city memorandum on Wednesday, April 15. "We anticipate \$600,000 in property taxes to the DDA. With the overall situation with COVID-19, property taxes for the time being are relatively set. I must indicate the general fund today is projecting about \$100,000 in losses at this time from sales taxes and the Lowell Light & Power pilot. I expect about a \$60,000 reduction in our gas tax revenues. The city is also losing revenue currently in our water and sewer funds because we have received less payment in the last month and anticipate this [to continue] going forward. However, at this point these are mere predictions."

Burns also said that bids are either being accepted or about to be accepted on two major projects: selling the old "line shack" building and the interior of the new

Showboat. Burns said the city hopes to sell the line shack to a restaurant or retail concern, but that work on the Showboat could take a while.

"They're still working on it at up at Moran [Iron Works] in Onaway," Burns said. "As of right now, they haven't told me any different, sometime in July it will be here, and then it's going to take a number of months for the general contractor work to be complete. I'd like to say it would be here for Christmas but that might be overly optimistic at this point. That was our goal but we've had a number of things come up along the way that I don't know if that's going to be possible."

For information and updates about the DDA, visit the city of Lowell website, lowellmi.gov, where you'll find the link under the "government" tab. The board's next meeting is scheduled for noon on Thursday, June 4, but like everything else nowadays, this is subject to change.

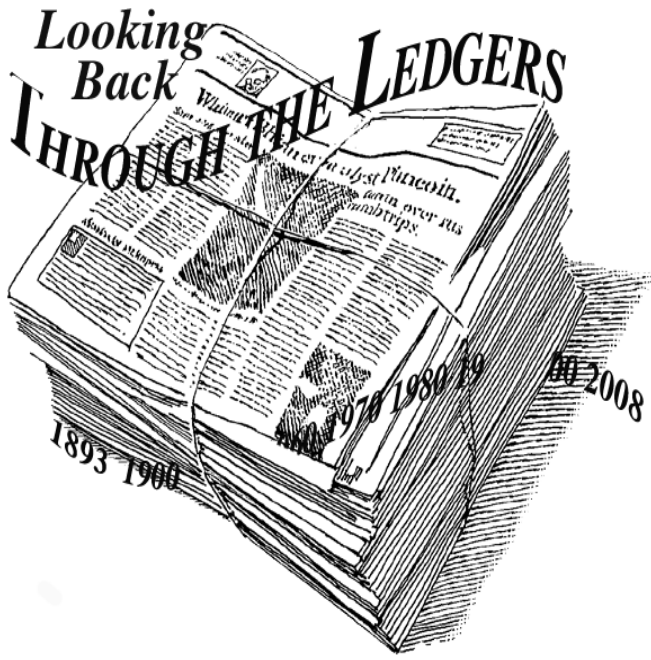
- \$308,632 for the DDA contribution to the City Hall Bond. Last year, the DDA took on the full bond payment. The General Fund needs to be alleviated as our pension costs are increasing significantly and other needs must be met. The City also is attempting to utilize any funds available to be diverted to streets improvements since the Income Tax failed.
- \$154,000 in capital outlay is proposed. This will include \$144,000 to resurface Amity Drive from Main to Suffolk St. We anticipate the federal government will be funding \$250,000 of this project through the Community Development Block Grant. The remaining portion of the project will be funded by the City. In addition, \$10,500 is budgeted to address an upgrade to the computerized temperature control system at Lowell City Hall. This system is 17 years old and is becoming obsolete. I have split the cost for this 50% between the DDA and General Fund. I will delay this project as long as I can but I don't think I can wait long.
- \$75,000 for Community Promotions. After discussing the amount the Chamber of Commerce will need with Liz Baker, this is what she believed was needed for next year. This includes summer concerts, overall marketing along with \$10,000 for a post COVID-19 Downtown event.
- \$34,263.28 for the DDA's first payment to Lowell Light and Power for 238 High Street.
- \$21,750 for the DDA's share of engineering costs for Amity Street.
- \$17,340 for the DDA's contribution to financing the Bob Cat and Front End Loader.

Excerpted from a Wednesday, April 15 city memorandum, the list of "major appropriations" in the DDA's 2020-2021 fiscal year budget.

**Support the Local Businesses Who Help Support Our Community!**



# viewpoint



## 125 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 3, 1895

We note the formation of a million dollar stock company at Benton Harbor for the purpose of damming the Paw Paw river for electrical and manufacturing purposes. The prediction is made that Benton Harbor will by this means add 20,000 people to her population during the next five years. There's a lesson here.

An oil heating stove being used to dry a recently painted room in this village, last Saturday evening, went on a "tear" and before it could be landed in the street the flames were yards high. Ben Converse carried it out and narrowly escaped a bath of fire. He had no sooner set the stove down than the bottom fell out and there was a jolly bon-fire for a few minutes. It looks as if the oil heater would bear watching.

Charles C. Warren, formerly foreman of the Canadian Pacific railroad, tells a strange story of adventure and captivity. He went to Mexico eleven years ago to seek his fortune, locating a gold mine at Yucatan. He says the mine proved rich and bandits took his sluice boxes, killing his comrades. He also says the government, learning of the richness of the mine, arrested him on a charge of treason and kept him captive in San Juan until last July, operating the gold mine in the meantime. He finally escaped to Puento.

## 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 6, 1920

An early morning fire Wednesday destroyed the large red barn on River Street, generally known as the "Ed Lee" barn, owned and used by F. B. McKay. Loss about \$2,500, with \$1,300 insurance. The fire of unknown origin was beyond control when discovered; and the entire building was ablaze when the fire alarm sounded, the alarm being given through the Citizens' Central telephone office.

Sweeping aside all charges of fraud on the part of County Drain Commissioner Robert B. Patterson, Judge John S. McDonald, on Wednesday, held the contract with the Woolman Construction company, of Sandusky, for construction of the Pratt Lake and Kilgus drains is void, but sustained the contract as it applies to the erection of bridges over these drains by the Beach Manufacturing company, of Charlotte.

We hope that our business men will not forget to make more liberal evening opening hours for the benefit of the farmers during their hard work season. Let us fix it so that it will not be necessary for them to quit work in mid-afternoon to do necessary trading.

The forenoon hours might be shortened, as per recent suggestion of one of our farmer friends. We want production – must have it. Let us do our part in the crisis that confronts us.

## 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 3, 1945

Leonard Bozung of Keene township received a letter Monday from his son, Sheldon Bozung, saying that he is now in a hospital in England after being liberated from a prisoner of war camp inside Germany. Pfc. Bozung was serving with General Patton's army, and this is the first direct word the family has had from him since he was reported missing last fall.

Frank L. Stephens had a big day last Friday, when he issued 25 applications for drivers' licenses, at his office in the Lowell city hall. Mr. Stephens suggests that applicants should read up on points of the law governing driving, before applying for licenses, as they are only allowed two chances to pass the test. Three applicants have been turned down so far for failure to pass the test. Remember the local bureau is at the west door, on Monroe Ave.

The suggestion has been made that when official announcement is made of the defeat of Germany, that people refrain from a public demonstration, as it does not mean the end of fighting for many of our boys. And that on VE-day, our citizens show their thankfulness by attending services in the church of their choice. After we complete that job in the Pacific we can take time off to celebrate.

## 50 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 7, 1970

Congressman Gerald R. Ford today announced he is mailing out 1970 questionnaires to nearly 142,000 residences in the Fifth Congressional District to obtain a sampling of local views in current issues. A new feature of the questionnaire, Ford said, is that both husband and wife will be able to express their opinions on the same questionnaire form. "I discovered last year that some questionnaires came back with an indication that the husband and wife strongly disagreed on some issues," Ford said. "So my questionnaire this year offers 'his' and 'hers' columns."

A gala awaits the arrival home this week of Army Sergeant Victor E. Stanley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Verne Stanley. The 20-year-old tank commander has returned to the United States from Viet Nam where he was wounded in action on April 22. He suffered third degree burns of the hands, left arm and right leg when his tank was struck by enemy fire.

The possibility that Lowell's planning consultant may be involved in a conflict of interest arose Monday night at the end of a brief city council meeting. Councilman Carlen Anderson, who sits on the city's planning commission as does Mayor Harold Jeffries, said he would like some clarification on the status of John Paul Jones, hired a year ago to serve as planning consultant.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 3, 1995

Through the eyes of a camera, Kelli Joyce's second-grade students, as St. Patrick's School in Parnell, developed an added awareness of the environment around them. The nationally sponsored

## outdoors

take a breath

Dave Stegehuis

Michigan's natural resources are important to the state economy as well as the quality of life of over ten million residents. We in Michigan are fortunate to have millions of acres of state and federal land plush with forests, lakes, and streams.

This land is home to an abundance of wildlife. Bear, deer, moose, and elk share the habitat with a long list of smaller animals and a multitude of bird species. Native and introduced fish swim in thousands of inland lakes, thousands of miles of rivers and streams, and the Great Lakes. These vast natural resources are available to everyone in the state.

Life today is very different in many ways from what it was as recent as 50 years ago. While the world around us rapidly changes, we have to keep adjusting our lifestyle to acclimate to current conditions. We can look to nature for exceptions where little changes. Buck deer lock horns in the fall, mushrooms pop up from the forest floor in the spring, gulls noisily patrol shorelines in the summer, and we are not in charge of the schedule.

Because nature is one part of our world that does not change, by getting out and connecting with the land and the creatures that live there we can find a sense of stability and peace to balance our lives. When so much around us is contrived by man, nature is real and relating to it can give us a clearer perspective on our place on earth.

This revelation can be experienced by simply spending quiet time hanging out in the woods. As you travel around the state observe the landscape scrolling past the windshield. Stop occasionally to get out and look around. Take a walk or float a river. Sit around a campfire. Spend a morning on a deer stand. Walk a beach. While out there, pause to look for wildlife, listen for bird chatter, smell the wet earth, and notice emerging plant life.

Take a deep breath and relax and become part of it. This was all going on before we got here and will be happening long after we are gone if we are responsible stewards of the land. We are here for only a short time so don't miss it.

## We love to hear from you!

*The Lowell Ledger welcomes letters to the editor from readers, but there are a few conditions that must be met before they will be published.*

The requirements are:

- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence. We do not publish anonymous letters, and names will be withheld at the editor's discretion for compelling reasons only.
- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
- Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of businesses will not be accepted.
- Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
- Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
- "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer.
- In an effort to keep opinions varied, there is a limit of one letter per person per month.
- We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced.

# Lowell DPW keeps water flowing during pandemic

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Department of Public Works is responsible for the maintenance of critical infrastructure in the community such as streets, water, parks, sewers and the cemetery. Therefore, most DPW employees are considered essential workers and have been going to work during the coronavirus pandemic.

“Our DPW staff are working very hard and doing a lot of necessary work the public does not necessarily see,” said Lowell city manager Michael Burns.

“None of our work has gone away,” said Lowell DPW director Daniel Czarnecki. “The utility guys are maintaining the systems. The parks/streets guys are keeping potholes patched, preparing the parks for when they can reopen and other necessary spring duties.”

Czarnecki said he particularly regrets not being able to keep the cemetery up to its regular level of upkeep.

“Our streets/parks full-time employees have also taken on the work at Oakwood Cemetery for burials, lot sales and some of the maintenance. We have not yet replaced the cemetery sexton [Don

DeJong]. With the current pandemic situation we are on hold to fill that position [and] we have not brought back the part time employees. They are the ones who keep the cemetery mowed and the downtown areas maintained and looking nice, along with the cemetery sexton. [...] We have been fortunate, knock on wood, that we haven’t had an overabundance of burials here in Lowell, but it is spring and that’s when they seem to come in. If people had a family member who passed away over the winter, a lot of people wait until now when it’s a little nicer to do the burial. But there are issues with funerals right now because of social distancing, which is tough. That makes it even harder.”

Czarnecki was interviewed on Thursday, April 23, just before the ban on landscaping was lifted. Now that it’s allowed, the cemetery will return to the regular grooming schedule.

“We maintain the cemetery with part-time people,” Czarnecki said. “They help with the burials, they help dig the holes and they help clean up when it’s done. Well, those people are all gone right now. We don’t have



any part time people, so we’re not maintaining the cemetery at the moment. If you look out the window, the grass looks nice and green, it’s starting to get long...”

Social distancing is a must nowadays, but many of the DPW’s duties would either be impossible or prohibitively inefficient for a single individual to attempt.

“We have two groups of employees,” Czarnecki said. “We have our streets,

parks and cemetery folks and we’ve got our utilities, water and sewer. They are doing all of our spring work that they typically do. There are lots of potholes to patch! The streets and parks

knocked down – just all of our typical spring projects. We are still trying to move forward with them, but we have many jobs that one person can’t do. You could patch potholes with

makes it so much easier and it’s so much less time-consuming. Our utility workers, if they have to go into a manhole or if they have to go into somebody’s house, that’s not something



Veteran DPW employee Scott Fosburg was busy preparing Stoney Lakeside Park for visitors last week.



employees are prepping the parks, getting them opened up, taking care of damages from whatever fell apart during winter, keeping the playgrounds taped off so people know not to go play on them, patching potholes, putting signs back up that got

one person, but it would take forever. They would have to drive down the road, stop, get out, patch a pothole, get back in, move down the road, get out of the car... As you’re moving along, if you can have somebody walking behind you to do that, it

that we usually do with one person. There are many things that, just for safety purposes, you really need two people.”

Staffing was drastically reduced during the early weeks of the pandemic, but many have returned to their posts.

“The full-time employees have continued to work hard during this time,” Czarnecki said. “Also, our part-time employees have been very understanding to the situation. [...] On March 23 we reduced our DPW full-time staff to working half time and we laid off all our part-time staff. We had one water distribution person and one street person working each day. At the water plant we also reduced staff to one full-time person working each day and no overlap of

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# Lowell DPW keeps water flowing during pandemic



employees. Unfortunately, there are many job assignments that need two people to complete. Some are due to the work involved, and most duties need a minimum of two people for safety reasons. The workers were able to complete some work in preparation for spring. Also, some employees were able to perform computer work from home as well. Unfortunately, we are falling behind in our work and have many job duties that need attention.”

Essential workers are always at risk of exposure to COVID-19. The city has put protocols in place to sanitize equipment, vehicles and workspaces, and to reduce personal and public contact.

“On April 20, the full-time water distribution employees and the streets/parks employees returned to full-time,” Czarnecki said. “We have not brought back the part-time workers. We have set up standard operating procedures to limit our employees potential exposure to the virus. Rubber gloves, face

masks, hand sanitizer, cleaning materials, etc., have been provided. The employees have directions to clean and maintain their workstations on a routine basis during the day, and at the end of the day there are necessary distancing requirements for work assignments and breaks. We are reviewing other possible procedures to assist in the safety of the employees.”

“Next week our DPW staff will not be staggered,” Burns said. “They tend to work outside, so they will have separate vehicles and use proper social distancing protocols to work safely. Now the weather is hopefully getting warmer, and their work demand is becoming greater, so we made that decision.”

“While we want to think this won’t be permanent, I’m expecting many of the things we are doing for the safety of the employees to protect them from the virus will need to continue,” Czarnecki said.

Staff at the water treatment plant are adhering to social

distancing guidelines, but this means they’ve had to delay some routine maintenance and special projects for the time being. Czarnecki said that water use is up a little more than usual, but usage always increases during spring.

“The typical schedule at the water treatment plant is one person works Sunday through Thursday and the other one works Tuesday through Saturday,” Czarnecki said. “That way, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday there is overlap. They’re just running the plant, making sure we produce water. Any projects or things like that have been put on hold. We have two employees who do this [schedule], and it would be horrible if one got sick. If one got sick and spread it to the other one, we’re in trouble! We wouldn’t have anybody to run the place. What we’ve done is, we have one person working Sunday through Tuesday and the other person working Thursday through Saturday, and then they’re taking turns with Wednesdays. We’re

keeping it as safe as possible for the employees and doing what we can to keep issues from happening.”

The condition of downtown streets has long been a concern of city residents and city hall. At this point, major repair projects are still going ahead as planned. Also, if you’ve been dreading your bill that might be generated by the city’s upcoming sidewalk repair project, you’re off the hook for a little while.

“We are still moving forward on our street projects for this summer,” Czarnecki said. “We also completed our sidewalk program that started late last summer. We are holding back on the residential sidewalk program for this summer due to the pandemic and the pain it is causing many citizens in Lowell. I think it would be hard to ask people to spend money to fix their sidewalks when they might be laid off or on reduced income. [...] If you’ll recall, that was one of the items the

city council wanted us to really work on this year. I started putting together the paperwork that we were going to send to people and the plan for how we were going to do it. That was before the pandemic came along. Now there’s just no way that we can tell people, ‘Fix your sidewalk!’ when they’ve got everything else going on. If something is dangerous, we’ll have to address it, but I think we’ll just give it another year until we find out what ‘the new normal’ is and go from there.”

Czarnecki said that city leaders are concerned that the pandemic will cause a decrease in tax money collected by the state, which will cause the amount of tax revenue distributed to municipalities to decrease.

“When they’re supposed to give us dollars to operate with and those funds don’t come in, they can’t give us as much because they don’t have as much,” Czarnecki said. “That’s going to effect us in the long term more than just today. So we’re trying to make sure we’ve got that end covered

as well. Street funding, for instance, is done through Act 51, which is basically the gasoline tax. Well, you’ve seen what gas prices have done! One of the reasons is because people aren’t buying fuel, and if people aren’t buying it, that means their income is less, which means we’re not anticipating getting as much when they go to be any increases, I’m sure! The only saving grace is that the gas tax is a consistent amount, it’s not a percentage like the sales tax.”

To contact the Lowell DPW, call 616-897-8457 or send a message to [dczarnecki@ci.lowell.mi.us](mailto:dczarnecki@ci.lowell.mi.us). Their office at 217 S. Hudson is currently closed to visitors.

“This is all out of our control and we are dealing with it to the best of our abilities,” Czarnecki said. “We’re just like everybody else, trying to figure it out as we go along. We are still here to serve our community and are doing everything we can to continue to do so.”



# HEROES

# AT WORK!



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# HEALTH

## M METRO HEALTH UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH

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### - obstructive sleep apnea in children

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) occurs in many adults, but can also occur in children. OSA is episodic complete or partial upper airway obstruction during sleep, usually resulting in disrupted sleep and gas exchange abnormalities (low oxygen levels). The presence of OSA is important to notice in children, because if not treated, OSA can lead to poor weight gain, growth delays, and even some cardiovascular effects (high blood pressure and ventricular dysfunction).

The common nighttime symptoms of OSA typically include habitual or loud snoring (more than 3 nights per week), choking in sleep, and restless sleep. Less common nighttime symptoms of OSA in children are sleepwalking, sleep terrors, bedwetting, and night sweats. Daytime symptoms also occur and can include difficulty paying attention, learning problems, behavioral problems (hyperactivity, impulsivity, rebelliousness, and aggression), and daytime sleepiness (falling asleep during school, short car rides, or on the school bus).

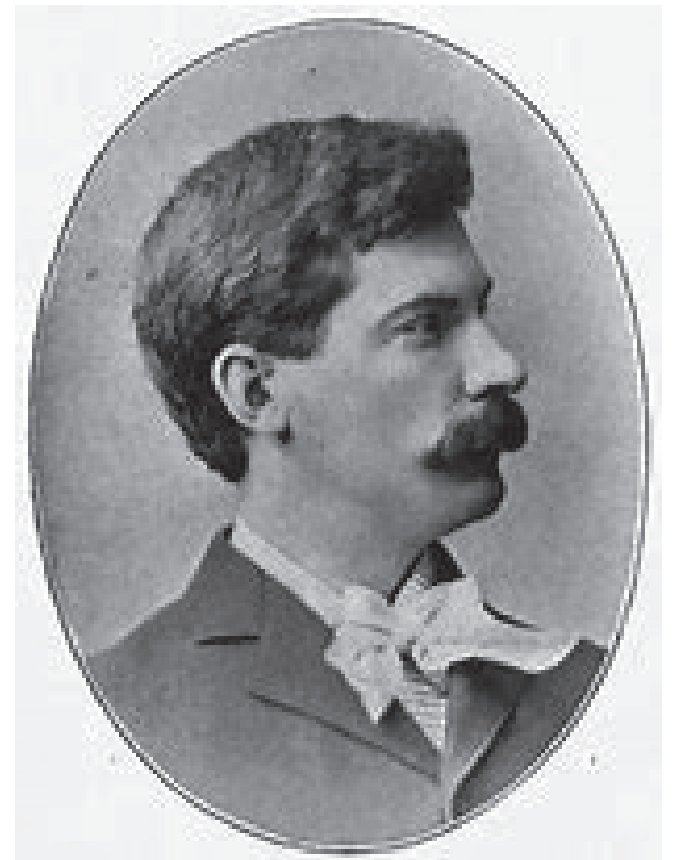
The two main risk factors for OSA in children are enlarged tonsils and obesity. Both tonsillar enlargement and obesity cause crowding in the pharynx, increasing the likelihood of OSA. If you have concerns that your child may have OSA, this should be discussed with your child's primary care provider or pediatrician. A history and physical exam will be done at the visit and the child may be referred for polysomnography (sleep study). Treatment options can then be discussed and sometimes include referral to specialist in sleep medicine or otolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat).

# ABCs of Lowell history

The Lowell Area Historical Museum introduces a new weekly feature to explore local history. During this time of closed museums, we want to still be able to share our area's history with you.

**E** is for Ernest Ernest Graham was born in 1866 on Peck's Hill on the northeast side of Lowell. At the age of 7, he moved with his family to their new brick house built by his father, Robert Graham - the current Lowell Museum. Ernest was said to have helped his father carry bricks to build this house. Three weeks after moving in, his mother

died of pneumonia. A year later, his father remarried and Ernest's stepmother and three step-siblings moved in. Ernest attended Lowell Public Schools. He started his career by laying bricks at 213 East Main Street, another building built by his father Robert Graham, in 1879 and later the Post Office at 101 Main St. Ernest became an architect's apprentice for the Grand Rapids firm of Robinson & Rush. There, he had a hand in building Union Station and the Castle on Cherry Street. In 1888, at twenty-two years old, Ernest entered the Chicago offices of Burnham & Root. Burnham was one of America's finest architects and a pioneer in skyscraper design. Graham came to his attention when he disputed a set of plans based on his earlier experience in Grand Rapids. Burnham agreed with Graham and soon made him his assistant. formed with Ernest R. Graham, Pierce Anderson, Edward Probst, Howard J. White, sons Daniel H. Burnham and Hubert Burnham. The six practiced under the name Graham, Burnham & Company for five years until August 4, 1917. On the same day, the



**Ernest Graham.** Photo courtesy of The Lowell Area Historical Museum.

## happy birthday



- April 29**  
K.J. Vezino, Bryan Roth, Lucy Wade
- April 30**  
Carmen Roudabush, Stacey Irwin, Shawn Dulin, Nancy Leary
- May 1**  
Dennis Anchors, Mark Christiansen
- May 2**  
Melinda D'Agostino, Tim Mastenbrook, Madison Briggs, Glen Bryant, Jacklyn Batt
- May 3**  
Wilma Roudabush, Melissa Merriman, Mimi Mitchell, Rich Bieri
- May 4**  
John Borton, David Rhodes, Jerre Sue Smith
- May 5**  
Scott Carpenter, Kevin Vezino, Kerry Vezino, Brenda Erickson, Robert Dalziel, Kaitlyn Kovacs, Lani Brown

Ernest's career took off when Burnham had him help oversee construction of the 1893 World's Fair. As Daniel Burnham's assistant, twenty-three-year-old Ernest Graham had a major role in the World's Fair. He designed the Fine Arts Building and then worked around the clock for two-and-a-half years as assistant director of construction and operation of the fair. After the Fair, the Art Palace was the only building left standing. It was used as the Field Museum from 1894-1916 and then became the Science and Industry Museum. Ernest designed a new Field Museum building, which opened in 1921.

Ernest's career included the Merchandise Mart, said to be the world's largest building, Wrigley Building, Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, Union Station, and Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago. His firm also designed big buildings in other cities: Union Station and General Post Office in Washington, D.C.; the Union Trust, Union Station and Terminal Tower buildings in Cleveland; Gimbel Brothers in New York and the Seldfridge & Co. store in London.

On March 1, 1894, the firm of D.H. Burnham & Company was founded. The partners were Daniel Burnham, Ernest Graham, Edward Shankland and Charles Atwood. The company used new technology to design and build the tallest skyscrapers and the biggest banks, department store buildings, office buildings, railroad stations, post offices, and museums in the world. Ernest went on to become one of the most well-known architects in the United States. When Daniel Burnham died on June 13, 1912, the firm was dissolved and a new partnership

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 Pastor Andrew Bolkoom • Pastor of Discipleship  
 Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries  
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**LIFE GROUPS ..... 11:00 AM** (Nursery-Adult)  
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Why do they call it rush hour when nothing moves? - Robin Williams

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Grid of numbers for a crossword puzzle solution.

Large crossword puzzle grid with words highlighted in black and white.

Printing advertisement for Lowell Litho, featuring 'Print Impact' logo, 'COMPLETE DESIGN STAFF', and contact information: 897-9555, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

## obituaries

### GROENDYK

Angelica Fawn (Underly) Groendyk, age 27 of N.E. Grand Rapids. The Lord called home our beautiful Angel on Friday, April 24, 2020. She will be missed beyond words by her family and friends. Angel was a beautiful soul who loved her family with all she had. Now she is at peace, and no longer suffering the pain she endured as the Lord now has her in His loving arms. Angel is survived by her husband, Dan Groendyk; children, Jeremiah age 10, Madison age 4, and Roman age 2; parents, John Underly, April (Wesley) Wright; brothers, Steven



Underly, Robert (Blanca) Underly, John Underly Jr.; sisters, Amber Stiles, Allison (Christopher) Black; grandparents, Terri Stewart, Mike Stewart, Betty Lacic; mother-in-law, Myrtle Groendyk; brother-in-law, Michael Groendyk; and several nieces and nephews. Private service and visitation will be held by the family at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI. Rev. Crystal Black officiating.



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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The Lowell Charter Township Board will hold a Public Hearing to consider a request from CRP-2 LLC for major amendments to the Cumberland Ridge Open Space Planned Unit Development (OS-PUD) Zoning District which was originally approved in 2005. The requested major amendments are:

- 1) To construct 54 condominium dwelling units on the remaining undeveloped portion of the OS-PUD instead of the 63 units allowed in the 2005 approval.
- 2) To construct these dwelling units on slabs instead of on full basements as required in the 2005 approval.

**ADDRESS AND GENERAL LOCATION:** 1416 Cumberland Avenue SE which is on the west side of Cumberland Avenue and north of Center Hill Street within the existing Cumberland Ridge Condominium development. PP #: 41-20-05-276-001.

The hearing will be held:

**WHEN:** MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI. 49331

Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

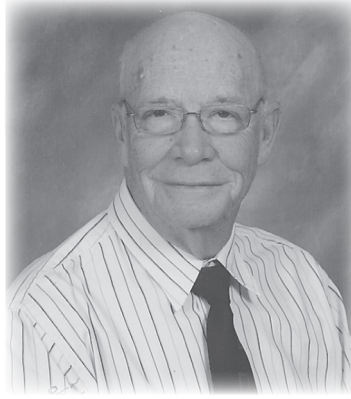
Monica Burt, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

### DEVRIES



John Gordon DeVries was born on October 24, 1933 to Albert and Wilma DeVries. He graduated from Princeton High School, was a radar specialist in the U.S. Army, and married Frances Koppendrayer in 1959.

They lived in Rochester, MN until 1970 when they moved to Lowell, MI. John proudly worked at Calvin College, now Calvin University, for 29 years as a machinist in the Science Department where he enjoyed helping engineering students with their senior projects. John and Fran established and were active in Reformed Engaged Encounter for 17 years. John was also an active member of Calvary CRC of Lowell for over 50 years. He loved to fix things and remodeled everything. John also enjoyed camping and spending time with family. His grandchildren describe him as caring, patient, gentle, kind, and funny. He was preceded in death by his brother, Robert DeVries, and his daughter-in-law, Sue DeVries. John is survived by his wife, Fran; children, Karen (Greg) Sparks, Bruce (Terri) DeVries, Brian (Diane) DeVries, Curt DeVries, Gwen (Sam) Scalici; brothers, Gerald (Eileen) DeVries, Marvin (Sharon) DeVries, Clarence DeVries, Lloyd (Phyllis) DeVries, Larry DeVries, Dale DeVries; sister, Jean Wark; 18 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; many bothers & sisters-in-law, as well as, nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell, 1151 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331.



### HARRINGTON

Barbara E. "Bunny" Harrington aged 66 of Saranac passed away April 20, 2020 after a valiant and courageous fight. She was born November 30, 1953 in Grand Rapids, the daughter of Clarence W. Craver, Sr. and Eileen (Hathaway-Craver) Ellis. Bunny grew up in the Clarksville area and attended Lake Odessa High School where she graduated class of 1971. She worked as a Dental Office Administrator for 35 years, 20 of those years at Saranac Dental Care where she truly poured love over the people she served each day, showering them with kindness and smiles. To know Bunny was to love Bunny. She had the gift to embrace a person and truly see and listen to them whether it be a loved one or a stranger at the store. Her heart would shine through her contagious smile wherever she went and whomever she came into contact with. Her authenticity made it so easy for people to embrace her. Her family was her heartbeat. The joy of her grandchildren lit her soul on fire. Our beloved Bunny was a devoted daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, aunt and friend. She had great joy in gardening and appreciated the beauty in flowers and loved the beach. Her lifelong love of cats and kittens led her to care and love for many. She also cherished many years with her Ada Bible Church family. Her very essence was love, faith, family & friends! Surviving is her committed partner and love of her life, Chris Risner of Saranac. Children; Aaron (April) Harrington of Lowell and Sarah Denman and Fiancé Joe Collier of Clarksville. Children of her heart; Christopher (Emily) Risner of Saranac and Shanda (Timothy) Eaton of Saranac. Grandchildren; Ashlynn Kosten, Lauren Harrington, Augustus Harrington, Brayden Eaton, Audy Risner and Olivia Risner. Siblings; Helen (Richard) Pluth of Florida, Larry (Judi) Craver of Olivet, Doris (David) Middleton of Florida, and Steve (Sherri) Craver of Marne and many adored nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, aunts and her nephew, Adam Craver. Bunny was very kind and will be missed by many, especially her family. A celebration of Bunny's life will be announced at a later date. Those wishing may make memorial contributions to The Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation 230 East Ohio St. Suite 304, Chicago, Illinois 60611-3201. Arrangements in care of Lake Funeral Home in Saranac. Online condolences may be made at www.lakefuneralhomes.



www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

## Looking Back, continued

K-Mart/Kodak contest provided students with a recyclable camera and a 12-exposure roll of film. Students were asked to go out and take six pictures of what's beautiful in their world and what needs improvement in their world.

Elderly and disabled residents of Lowell Charter Township may find traveling around the area a little easier if North Kent Transit Service is allowed to operate in the area. The Lowell Charter Township Board recently was presented with information regarding the public transportation system which is designed to benefit a certain section of the population.

The 1995 Lowell Youth Football League (LYFL) season will be special for a couple of reasons. "The Lowell Youth Football League started the 1994 season with a balance of approximately \$25 and an outstanding debt for 1993 equipment of \$1,500," LYFL president David Biggs said. The nearly depleted '94 balance (\$25) was traced back to the embezzlement of \$2,200 by former LYFL treasurer Mary Jo Smith.



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"Do you want a piece  
of advice?" it is a mere  
formality. It doesn't  
matter if you answer yes  
or no. You're going to get  
it anyway.**

-Erma Bombeck

## ABCs, continued

Museum one of the two largest collections at the time of Coptic textiles from ancient Egypt.

Ernest was a social man. He belonged to many Chicago clubs and often hosted dinner parties in his home. He dreamed of establishing a school in Chicago to rival the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and of a lakefront development that included a consolidated train station.

He died November 22, 1936, before it could be realized. His death was attributed to overwork. As one of the originators of the skyscraper, America's most distinctive contribution to world architecture, Mr. Graham's place in history is assured.

The Lowell Area Historical Museum's latest exhibit explores the life and career of Ernest Graham and his father Robert Graham.

# FUN PAGE

## SUDOKO

		1		4				8	
		9					2	3	
	2								5
		7		3	9				
									4
			8		5				3
5		3			6			1	
	6		2						
	8		3	9					

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

# WELLNESS WORD SEARCH

A O L V N E E F K S V H E A R T H G B D  
 C C T W A Y C U O R T E X E R C I S E M  
 M I U W I V N D L A K R B X U Y K R L E  
 U B O X C F A N O L O R E T X E N L R D  
 S O K E I G L S C U I X A N N V E T O I  
 C R R N S N A U D C W S V O G L S C Y C  
 L E O D Y I B R E S A S O I A T G M D A  
 E A W U H H P R R A I K N M M I H X O T  
 S D L R P C C D L V A N O S E G S M B I  
 I E S A B T W P A O I D I S S T Y M M O  
 S N H N W E E A C I U O T O S E R M Y N  
 P P T C R R I X I D V T A M A D N I L S  
 U W I E H T G C S R M R R B L R L T C C  
 K W A R N S H W Y A G A I K P D G U I T  
 C F G U A S T U H C G I P P V B O K P F  
 E F W S X U I B P P S N S T S W E W K E  
 H M L W A Y I T S Y N I E M P M I N F P  
 C B K K O W P I Y N Y N R U U T G O A C  
 L I F E S T Y L E F E G U X H A W I V R  
 P L M C C O M P O S I T I O N L B E Y H

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Puzzle solutions on page 9

- |  |   |   |                               |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
| WELLNESS<br>WORD SEARCH                                  | COMPOSITION<br>ENDURANCE<br>EXERCISE<br>FITNESS<br>GYM<br>HEART<br>INTENSITY<br>ISOMETRIC | LIFESTYLE<br>MEDICATIONS<br>MUSCLES<br>PHYSICAL<br>PHYSICIAN<br>RESPIRATION<br>STRENGTH<br>STRETCHING | TRAINING<br>WEIGHT<br>WORKOUT |
| AEROBIC<br>BALANCE<br>BODY<br>CARDIOVASCULAR<br>CHECK-UP |   |   |                               |

## Guess Who?

I am a comic actress born in Texas on April 26, 1933. I once lived in a boarding house for women pursuing careers in acting. I have earned a Tony, Emmy and Golden Globe for my work in various genres.

Answer: Carol Burnett

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to landscaping.

S A G S R

□	□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---	---

Answer: Grass

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10			
11					12					13	14	15	
16					17				18				
19				20	21			22	23			24	
25						26					27		
28					29					30			
				31	32					33			
34	35	36	37						38				
39					40	41	42						
43					44					45	46	47	48
49				50					51	52			
53			54						55				
56		57				58					59		
60					61	62					63		
				64							65		

### CLUES ACROSS

- Curved symmetrical structure
- One's partner in marriage
- Male admirer
- Spend in a period of dormancy
- Popular Easter meal
- Doc
- Bearing a heavy load
- Gratitude
- The Mount Rushmore State
- Driving
- Girl
- British thermal unit
- Makes a mistake
- A defined length of time
- Lions do it
- Large quantities
- Become less intense
- Famed peninsula
- Emerges
- Rare Hawaiian geese
- Dance style
- Drove
- Measures speed of an engine (abbr.)
- Yankee hero Bucky
- Midway between west and northwest
- Monetary unit of Samoa
- Makes clothing

### CLUES DOWN

- Remove body tissue
- Harvester
- Roadside living quarters
- Excessive self-confidence
- Lapp
- Bicycled
- Entrance to a passage
- Western U.S. state
- Grain towers
- "Westworld" actress Rachel Wood
- Commercial
- One who left a will
- Makes it through
- Within (prefix)
- Sea patrol (abbr.)
- Cigarettes (slang)
- A doctrine
- Constrictor snakes
- Atomic #73
- Baseball stat
- Female sibling
- A soft gray metal (abbr.)
- Southern constellation
- Belgian city
- Go in again
- In a different, more positive way
- A place for sleeping
- Blood type
- Syrian news agency (abbr.)
- A salt or ester of acetic acid
- Millihenry
- Populous Israeli city Aviv
- Widen
- Magical potion
- Acknowledging
- Private romantic rendezvous
- Cavalry sword
- Terabyte
- Artificial intelligence
- Bullfighting maneuver
- Breezed through
- Santa says it three times
- \_\_\_ and behold
- 36 inches (abbr.)

# Term-limited legislators now targeting other offices

Saying he wants to be a “constitutional sheriff,” Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona) filed last week to run for that office in Antrim County. He’ll face off in the August primary against incumbent Sheriff Daniel Bean.

While good things are happening in downtown Detroit, according to Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo (D-Detroit), residents in the city’s neighborhoods are still struggling and need more resources and assistance. She’s planning on running against Detroit mayor Mike Duggan in 2021.

Those are just two of 22 House members who will have to make alternative

plans for the coming year, given that they are in their third terms and therefore term-limited. As other candidates filed Tuesday to run for House seats, term-limited members are looking at other offices or other ways to earn a living.

Rep. Vanessa Guerra (D-Saginaw) has already posted a website in her bid for Saginaw County clerk.

Rep. Wendell L. Byrd (D-Detroit) said he filed last week for the Wayne County commission.

Others don’t have their eye on seats right away but are leaving their options open for the future, like Rep. Frank Liberati (D-Allen

Park), Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit) and Rep. Jason Sheppard (R-Lambertville).

Rep. John Chirkun (D-Roseville) said he’d be interested in running again, but it would be something at the local or county level.

Rep. Kathy Crawford (R-Nov) said she’s not so much interested in an elective position, but she’d like to help local groups like the historical commission, or perhaps serve on a statewide task force regarding kinship care or other senior causes.

Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Twp.) joked that he has thought about becoming a professional sports bettor, but there are no

sports now under the COVID-19 lockdown so that wouldn’t likely work out too well. Right now, he doesn’t have his sights on another elective seat.

House Speaker Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) is term-limited but not looking at other positions for now, according to his spokesperson Gideon D’Assandro.

“Speaker Chatfield is focused on fulfilling his role for the rest of this year and helping the people of Michigan through this crisis,” D’Assandro said.

Cole said Antrim County residents have been trying to convince him to run for sheriff for about six months. He doesn’t have a law enforcement background, but that’s not required to be sheriff as the position is mainly managerial. The sheriff relies on the undersheriff to oversee the day-to-day law enforcement activities, Cole said. Nonetheless, “when I win the primary,” getting certified would be a priority, he said.

“I’m excited to bring a new atmosphere to the Antrim County Sheriff’s department and take the sheriff’s department to the next level here in the county,” Cole said. “We are a heavily tourism-based economy. We have a heavy influx of people from all around the state. We need to make sure the sheriff’s department is putting their best foot forward. And in these times particularly, I will be coming at this from a very constitutional, individual rights and freedom perspective, and will be very outspoken when it comes to protecting those rights.”

Gay-Dagnogo said she comes to the mayoral race with a strong commitment to social justice. She worked for Detroit city council members for more than nine years, the last for the late councilman Clyde Cleveland. After her service, she went into teaching.

“I thought I would make a substantial impact there, but I realized there is an ecosystem that has to be balanced with great leadership that understands those who are suffering every day from the impact of poverty,” Gay-Dagnogo told the Michigan Information and Research Service on Tuesday. “We have to have people who have a commitment to ensuring that all residents have an opportunity to thrive. Bringing all that together and serving in the Legislature, I realized that Detroit is in a place often times where the



resources that should come into the neighborhoods and the community, they don’t flow accordingly. We need strong leadership that looks out for those [residents] and serves as a bridge between our business community and our neighborhoods, someone who has experienced firsthand what it is like to grow up in a single home, what it is like to struggle, what it is like to triumph.”

In the legislature, Gay-Dagnogo said she fought against the emergency manager law.

“I believe [that law] unjustly targets our African American community,” Gay-Dagnogo said. “I fought against that auto insurance package that did nothing to address redlining in the city of Detroit. I think that shows our current mayor’s commitment, or lack of commitment, to residents who are struggling.”

Gay-Dagnogo wants to make sure African American and women-owned businesses have an opportunity to participate in the city procurement process.

“What we are facing right now with COVID, it basically shines a light on the fractured systems that exist in our city and we need leadership that will change that paradigm so that we don’t face the highest rates of mortality, we don’t face the highest rates of exposure,” Gay-Dagnogo said.

Byrd filed last week to run for the 5th District seat on the Wayne County commission. He said he believes that would be a venue where he could continue his work on property taxes and foreclosure reform.

“I would like to do a study on property tax assessments, how assessments are made and how the taxes are administered,” Byrd said. “To me, property tax is probably one of the most unfair taxes that we have because there are really no controls in there. It basically is on a guesstimate-type basis. I would also like to look more into programs for our seniors. Seniors have paid money into the system for over 50 years but you see very few set-asides to benefit them.”

Guerra’s website says her priorities will be expanding office hours and providing satellite office hours, creating a website that includes video instructions on how to utilize county services, and creating a system to monitor service wait times in the clerk’s office.

She’ll challenge incumbent Michael Handley, a former legislator, in the Democratic primary, according to the county’s candidate list for August.

Love said her concentration this year is going to be on mentoring staff member Kevin Harris in how to run a good office for her district. Harris has filed to run as a Democrat to replace her. He also has a very crowded field in the primary, including Democrats Brenda Hill, Steele P. Hughes, Tyson Kelley and Dijah Ruffin. The winner will face off against Cathy Alcorn in the general.

And Love may be back. She lives in the Senate district represented by Sen. Betty Jean Alexander (D-Detroit).

“I have this internal debate with myself because of six years in the House and a lot of relationships have been built and I have been able to help my district significantly and help the state of Michigan, not only passing legislation,” Love explained. “Of the current sitting legislators, in the House for sure, I have more PAs than anyone else from Detroit. And I have gotten a significant amount of money back into the district. And that’s being in the minority all those years. That is a testament to my ability to work within my caucus and across the aisle, with different department heads, organizations and stakeholders [...] To say I’m not ever going to run for office again, I’m not sure I’m ready to say that either, but there are so many ways you can serve and be of service and help the community. So I’m torn.”

Liberati doesn’t have a seat he wants to run for now. He said he wouldn’t run a primary challenge against his current senator, Sen. Erika Geiss (D-Taylor). But redistricting is also scheduled for 2021.

“Who knows what is going to happen in the future,” Liberati said. “That might be a little different if we had a couple legs of that three-legged stool, instead of just the Governor. If we got the House too, even serving in a minority Senate situation like that, a minority member of the Senate is a little different if the Governor and House are majority Dem. I don’t know. Who knows, when they redistrict, there are more Dems in this state than there are Republicans. It could be a trifecta and I would love to be a part of that trifecta, absolutely.”



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